

## RESOLUTION 24-15

WHEREAS, Dana Rogers of Hill City, South Dakota, submitted a Petition to the Game, Fish and Parks Commission (Commission) dated June 12, 2024, requesting that the Game, Fish and Parks Commission amend ARSD § 41:06:13:01 (Spring Wild Turkey Hunting Season) – to create a Black Hills wild turkey hunting season drawing for nonresidents that is limited to 661 licenses for the reasons more fully set out in the petition (hereinafter referred to as “the Petition”); and

WHEREAS, all members of the Commission have been furnished with and have reviewed a copy of the Petition; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has been advised that a copy of the Petition has been served on all members of the Interim Rules Review Committee and Director of the Legislative Research Council as required by SDCL § 1-26-13; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has been advised that SDCL § 1-26-13 requires that within thirty (30) days of submission of a Petition, the Commission shall either “deny the petition in writing (stating its reasons for the denials) or shall initiate rule-making proceedings in accordance with SDCL 1-26-4.”; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has been advised and is of the opinion that a hearing on the Petition is neither statutorily required nor necessary; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has reviewed and carefully considered the requirements and procedures set out in SDCL §1-26-13 and the contents of the Petition, including the reasons advanced by Petitioner to limit the number of nonresident spring turkey hunters in the Black Hills; an

WHEREAS, license purchases over the years typically follow turkey numbers; and

WHEREAS, beginning in 2023, the Black Hills spring turkey season start date was moved to one week later to reduce the time that hunters may disrupt breeding and further increase population performance; and

WHEREAS, the current season structure has no biological implication because harvest is limited to male turkey. Implications and concerns revolve around social matters; and

WHEREAS, the suggested limitation to nonresident turkey hunters in the Black Hills is extreme and would substantially limit opportunity; and

WHEREAS, the department understands resident hunters have concerns over the number of nonresident turkey hunters in the Black Hills and will work with the Commission and others to look at alternative approaches and/or numbers related to identified concerns.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commission does hereby deny the Petition for the reasons hereinabove stated in this Resolution, which said

Resolution as adopted by the Commission shall constitute the Commission's written denial of the Petition and its reasons therefore.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Petition, a record of the Commission's discussions concerning same, and this Resolution be made a part of the Minutes of the Commission meeting at which this Resolution is adopted, and further, that the Department be and it is hereby authorized and directed in compliance with SDCL §1-26-13 to serve a copy of an extract of that portion of the Commission minutes which pertain to the Commission's discussion of the Petition and its adoption of this Resolution, including a copy of the Resolution, on all members of the Interim Rules Review Committee and Director of the Legislative Research Council with copies also to be provided to the Petitioner, Dana Rogers of Hill City, South Dakota.